



A STUDY OF THE HISTORY AND PRESENT OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN HINDI AS A SUBJECT IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN MIZORAM

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ABSTRACT

Hindi is the official and most widely used language in India. However, in Mizoram, majority of the people do not know how speak, read or write in Hindi. With the establishment of 'Zoram Hindi Prachar Samiti' in 1954 and the subsequent establishment of various educational institutions teaching in Hindi language, efforts have been taken to develop Hindi language in Mizoram. At present there are 7 educational institutions that offer various courses of studies in Hindi language in Mizoram. It is imperative that these institutions and the courses of studies they offer be publicized among the masses so that the importance of education in Hindi language and literacy in Hindi is further developed in the Mizoram.

KEYWORDS: Official Language of India, Hindi, Development, Hindi Education, Mizoram.

INTRODUCTION:

India is a multilingual nation but Hindi, one of its official languages is the most spoken language in the country. Over 600 million people speak, read and write Hindi in India and abroad.

In the north east region however, particularly in Mizoram, most of the people do not know how to speak, read or write in Hindi. English and Mizo are the most spoken languages and are the main medium of education as well. Since the establishment of "Zoram Hindi Prachar Samiti" now "Mizoram Hindi Prachar Sabha" in 1954, efforts have been taken continuously to promote Hindi Language especially in education. Although many developments regarding education in Hindi language could be seen, there is still much to achieve.

OBJECTIVES:

The present study has been designed with the following objectives:

- 1) To study the history of development and propagation of Hindi language in Mizoram.
- 2) To identify the different levels of Hindi Educational Institutions found/exist in Mizoram.
- 3) To find out the courses offered in different Educational Institutions in Mizoram.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

The present study adopts a descriptive method of study. Data sources include secondary data sources such as online and offline publications as well as primary data sources including- interviews, questionnaires of the Chairman/ Principal and Staffs of different Hindi Educational Institutions.

RESULTS & DISCUSSIONS:

I. History of development and propagation of Hindi language in Mizoram.

In Mizoram, Hindi is not spoken as a first language and most people do not know how to read and write in Hindi despite it being an Official language. Knowing the need for education in Hindi language, in 1954, the present Mizoram Hindi Prachar Sabha was established in the name of "Zoram Hindi Prachar Samiti" in Aizawl, City of Mizoram by the Assam Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti and the Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti, Wardha by the then Hindi Lovers. The main objective of the founders of the society was to promote the spirit of nationalism through the propagation of Hindi in the Mizo Community. The decision to use the textbooks of Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti Wardha and Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti Assam to run different classes was taken in 1954. In January 1972, the Lushai Hills which was a district under the Assam Government was made the Union Territory by the Central Government. Knowing time favourable of Hindi, the leaders have changed the name to "Mizoram Hindi Prachar Sabha" in order to propagate Hindi among the Mizo Community independently in the light of the Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti Wardha and Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti Assam by establishing a separate institution and registered with Firm and Society by the same name.

Hindi education witnessed great progress in Mizoram especially since the establishment of Zoram Hindi Prachar Samiti in 17 November, 1954. There

have been an increasing number of learners enrolled for Hindi Education over the years. Many of the Hindi teachers that are employed by the State Government are the Product of Mizoram Hindi Prachar Sabha that acts as the Board. An increasing number of the Mizo people have also engaged in occupations relating to Hindi education over the years in Mizoram.

In addition to the Mizoram Hindi Prachar Sabha, various Hindi Educational Institutions have been established in Mizoram such as Mizoram Hindi Training College, Study Centre of Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya in Mizoram Hindi Training College, Hindi Departments in Government Kamalanagar College, Government Aizawl College and Mizoram University.

II. Different levels of Hindi Educational Institutions found in Mizoram.

The various Hindi Educational Institutions in Mizoram are of different types based on the different levels, types and standards of Hindi Education they provide. The various Hindi Educational Institutions with their respective levels of education are presented in Table 2.1 as follows.

Table 2.1: Different levels of Hindi Educational Institutions in Mizoram

Names of Institutions	Levels of Education
Mizoram Hindi Prachar Sabha	Class 10, Class 12 and BA levels
Mizoram Hindi Training College	In- service and Pre- service Hindi Teachers' Training for Middle school, High School and Higher Secondary School Levels
Government Kamalanagar College	Undergraduate level
Government Aizawl College	Undergraduate level
Mizoram University	Postgraduate and Ph.D. levels
Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)	Undergraduate and Postgraduate levels
Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya (MGHAV).	Undergraduate

As shown Table 2.1, the levels of Hindi education offered by various Hindi Educational Institutions differ widely. Mizoram Hindi Prachar Sabha acts as the board of Hindi Education from a lower level. Under this board, class 10 (Hindi Prabodh), class 12 (Hindi Visharad) and B.A (Hindi Praveen) can be studied in various schools and colleges across the state. However, these qualifications under the Mizoram Hindi Prachar Sabha are applicable only in the field of Hindi inside Mizoram and are not equivalent to general qualifications.

Mizoram Hindi Training College is a full-fledged Post-graduate Degree College engaged in various Training Courses for In-service Hindi Teachers of Higher Secondary, High School and Middle School under the Govt. of Mizoram and Pre-service Hindi Teachers.

Government Kamalanagar College and Government Aizawl College are State Government's undergraduate colleges with separate Hindi Departments. Also Mizoram University is a Central University with a separate Hindi Department offering Postgraduate (M.A) and Ph.D. levels of Hindi education.

Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) offers Hindi education at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya (MGAHV) is a Central University based in Wardha, Maharashtra and its Study Centre in Mizoram is Mizoram Hindi Training College that offers Bachelor of Education (B.ED) in Hindi medium at undergraduate levels.

III. Courses offered in different Hindi educational institutions in Mizoram.

The various courses offered by different Hindi Educational Institutions in Mizoram are presented separately as follows.

3.1. Courses offered in Mizoram Hindi Prachar Sabha:

The various courses of Hindi education offered in various schools in Mizoram affiliated to the Mizoram Hindi Prachar Sabha with their respective durations are presented in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1: Courses offered in Mizoram Hindi Prachar Sabha

Courses	Duration
Hindi Prabodh (Class 10)	1 Year
Hindi Visharad (Class 12)	1 Year
Hindi Praveen (B.A)	1 Year

3.2. Courses offered in Mizoram Hindi Training College:

Mizoram Hindi Training College offers various courses for In-service and Pre-service Hindi Teachers. The courses offered along with their respective durations are presented in Table 4.3.

Table 3.2: Courses offered in Mizoram Hindi Training College

Courses	Duration
Hindi Shikshan Parangat (B.Ed)	2 Years
Hindi Shikshan Praveen (D.El.Ed)	2 Years
2 Year Hindi Shikshak Diploma	2 Years

3.3. Courses offered in Government Kamalanagar College:

The courses offered and their durations in the Department of Hindi, Government Kamalanagar College are presented in Table 3.3.

Table 3.3: Courses offered in Government Kamalanagar College

Courses	Duration
Bachelor of Arts in Hindi (Core)	3 Years (All Semesters)
Hindi (Modern Indian Language)	6 Months (III Semester)
Hindi (Elective)	2 Years (I-IV Semester)

3.4. Courses offered in Government Aizawl College:

The courses offered and their durations in the Department of Hindi, Government Aizawl College are presented in Table 3.4.

Table 3.4: Courses offered in Government Aizawl College

Courses	Duration
Bachelor of Arts in Hindi (Core)	3 Years (All Semesters)
Hindi (Modern Indian Language)	6 Months (III Semester)
Hindi (Elective)	2 Years (I-IV Semester)

3.5. Courses offered in Mizoram University:

The courses offered and their durations in the Department of Hindi, Mizoram University are presented in Table 3.5.

Table 3.5: Courses offered in Mizoram University

Courses	Duration
Master of Arts In Hindi	3 Years (All Semesters)
Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) In Hindi	Minimum- 3 Years Maximum- 5 Years

3.6. Courses offered in Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU):

The courses of Hindi education offered in IGNOU, Aizawl Regional Centre and their durations are presented in Table 3.6.

Table 3.6: Courses offered in IGNOU

Courses	Duration
Hindi (Foundation Course)(BA)	Minimum- 3 Years Maximum- 6 Years

Hindi (Elective Course) Course)(BA)	Minimum- 3 Years Maximum- 6 Years
Hindi (Application Oriented Course) (BA)	Minimum- 3 Years Maximum- 6 Years
Master of Arts in Hindi	Minimum- 2 Years Maximum- 5 Years

3.7. Courses offered in Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya (MGAHV):

The course offered in MGAHV Study Centre, Mizoram Hindi Training College and the duration is in Table 3.7.

Table 3.7: Courses offered in MGAHV

Courses	Duration
B.ED (Bachelor of Education)	2 Years

CONCLUSION:

The author made in-depth studies to collect necessary data to bring out the history of development of Hindi language and the establishment of various educational institutions that teach in Hindi and the courses offered till today. As many Mizos are still not aware of the importance of Hindi language and the existence of the institutions that offer courses in Hindi, it is crucial that these institutions and the courses they offer be publicized among the masses as much as possible so that Hindi, an official language of India is further developed in Mizoram.

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